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## COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

## STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JULY 12, 2001

APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA GAS STORAGE COMPANY

CASE NO. PUE010358

For an Annual Informational Filing

## ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION FOR 2001 ANNUAL INFORMATIONAL FILING

On June 21, 2001, Virginia Gas Storage Company ("VGSC" or "the Company"), by counsel, filed a Motion with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission"). In its Motion, VGSC requested that it be allowed to file its 2001 Annual Informational Filing ("AIF"), using a test period consisting of the nine (9) months beginning January 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001, rather than the calendar year ending December 31, 2001. The Company also asked that it be permitted to file its AIF for the period ending September 30, 2001, within 150 days from the end of the September 30, 2001, test period. VGSC represents that after its 2001 AIF, it will file its subsequent AIFs within one hundred and twenty (120) days after their September 30, 2001 test year in accordance with 20 VAC 5-200-30 A 9 of the Commission's Rules Governing Utility Rate Increase Applications and Annual Informational Filings.

In support of its Motion, VGSC alleges that as a result of the merger of Virginia Gas Company, a company owning 50% of VGSC, into a subsidiary of NUI Corporation ("NUI"), it is necessary for VGSC to conform its reporting periods to coincide with NUI's year-end September 30 reporting period. VGSC also represented that because of the various regulatory filings necessitated by the merger, VGSC requires an additional thirty days beyond the 120 days required for filing an AIF by Rule 20 VAC 5-200-30 A 9.

On July 10, 2001, the Staff, by counsel, filed it Response to VGSC's Motion. In its Response, the Staff noted that it did not oppose VGSC's Motion to use a January 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001, test period for all of the Company's AIF Schedules, with the exception of Schedules 9, 10, and 12. Staff noted that Schedules 9, 10 and 12 relate to earnings tests, and that it required twelve (12) months of data to evaluate properly the Company's current recovery of interest costs, or other regulatory assets VGSC may propose to capitalize. The Staff represented that it had contacted VGSC's counsel and was authorized to state that VGSC did not object to the Staff's proposal that the Company file Schedules 9, 10, and 12, for the twelve months ending September 30, 2001, with its 2001 AIF, with respect to capitalized interest or other regulatory assets the Company may have that are subject to an earnings test.

NOW UPON consideration of VGSC's request and the Staff Response thereto, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that this matter should be docketed; that VGSC has demonstrated good cause for its request; that VGSC should be permitted to file its 2001 AIF for the period January 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001, within 150 days from September 30, 2001, or by February 27, 2002 for all of its AIF Schedules with the exception of Schedules 9, 10 and 12; that the Company should file Schedules 9, 10, and 12 of its AIF due by February 27, 2002, using the twelve months ended September 30, 2001, as the test period for these Schedules; and that thereafter VGSC should file its subsequent AIFs within one hundred and twenty (120) days after the AIF test period, as required by 20 VAC 5-200-30 A 9, unless otherwise directed by the Commission. We further find that this docket should remain open to receive VGSC's AIF for 2001, when it is filed.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This matter shall be docketed and assigned Case No.  ${\tt PUE010358}$ .
- (2) VGSC shall file its 2001 AIF using the test period

  January 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001, for all of its AIF

  Schedules with the exception of Schedules 9, 10, and 12, by no

later than February 27, 2002. On or before February 27, 2002, VGSC shall file Schedules 9, 10, and 12, using the twelve months ending September 30, 2001, as the test year for these Schedules.

- (3) VGSC shall file each of its AIFs following its 2001

  AIF within one hundred and twenty (120) days after the end of
  the test period of its AIFs, as required by 20 VAC 5-200-30 A 9,
  unless provided otherwise by Commission Order.
- (4) This docket shall remain open to receive the Company's 2001 AIF and accompanying of documents.